

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 22, 2006. Claims 16 to 21 remain in the application, with Claims 16 and 19 to 21 having been amended. Claims 16, 20, and 21 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 16 and 18 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,980,319 (Ohta) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,757,070 (Lin). The rejections are respectfully traversed and the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in light of the following comments.

The present invention receives a recommended printing condition list from an information providing apparatus, acquires printable condition information from a printer driver program corresponding to a connected printer, extracts a printing condition selection list from the recommended printing condition list based on the printable condition information, and generates print data using the printer driver program based on the selected printing condition.

Referring specifically to the claims, Claim 16 is directed to a communication apparatus, that communicates with an information providing apparatus via a network and connects to printers, comprising a storage unit constructed to store printer driver programs, each of which is assigned to at least one of the printers, a reception unit constructed to receive a recommended printing condition list from said information providing apparatus, an acquisition unit constructed to acquire printable condition information from the printer driver programs stored in said storage unit, a list extraction unit constructed to extract a printing condition selection list from the recommended

printing condition list received by said reception unit, on the basis of the printable condition information acquired by said acquisition unit, a condition selection unit constructed to select a printing condition from the printing condition selection list extracted by said list extraction unit, and a generation unit constructed to generate print data on the basis of the printing condition selected by said condition selection unit, by using the printer driver program.

Claims 20 and 21 are method and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 16.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 16, 20 and 21, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of receiving a recommended printing condition list from an information providing apparatus, acquiring printable condition information from a printer driver program, extracting a printing condition selection list from the received recommended printing condition list, on the basis of the acquired printable condition information, selecting a printing condition from the extracted printing condition selection list, and generating print data on the basis of the selected printing condition, by using the printer driver program.

Ohta discloses that a printer 12 connected to a print server 13 obtains data from the print server 13 and prints the data when portable digital device 11 designates the data among data stored in print server 13. At column 2, lines 52 to 54 of Ohta, it is stated that “[the] invention essentially uncouples job submission parameters from the conventional print driver in the client computer.” The foregoing clearly means that “job submission parameter” provided to browser 18 is not related to a printer driver of a client

computer and is therefore clearly different from a “print condition selection list” as claimed in the present invention.

Lin is not seen to disclose anything that, when added to Ohta, would have resulted in the present invention. Specifically, Lin is merely seen to disclose a Universal Printing System capable of controlling a plurality of printers. However, Lin combined with Ohta fails to teach the features of receiving a recommended printing condition list from an information providing apparatus, acquiring printable condition information from a printer driver program, extracting a printing condition selection list from the received recommended printing condition list, on the basis of the acquired printable condition information, selecting a printing condition from the extracted printing condition selection list, and generating print data on the basis of the selected printing condition, by using the printer driver program.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 16, 20 and 21, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner’s earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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